

284 COMMENTARY ON MACAULAY'S
HISTORY

charged with the suppression of the rising was
commanded
by Christopher Monck, second Duke of
Albemarle. He
was not much of a soldier at best, and as the
three or four
thousand Devonshire militia under his
command were dis-
affected/ he was probably not to blame for his
failure to
beat the rebels at once. Louis de Duras, Earl
of Feversham,
the French soldier who commanded James's
forces, had,
at all events, military experience, though he is
generally
described, on the strength of contemporary
satires, as lazy
and incompetent. Five long letters of his are
now available,
together with a detailed narrative of his
marches during the
campaign, and of the battle of Sedgemoor.²
According to
Macaulay, Feversham was in bed when the
attack began,
but as it took place at one in the morning the
fact is not so
criminal as it may seem. Moreover it is
admitted, even by
Macaulay, that he did not remain there. 'Feversham
had
been awakened by the firing, had got out of
bed, had ad-
justed his cravat, had looked at himself well
in the glass,
and had come to see what his men were
doing/³ In the
letters above mentioned there is a full account
of his move-
ments during the fight and of the orders he
gave.

The best account of the campaign, from a
military point
of view, is to be found in the two chapters
devoted to the
subject in Wolseley's Life of Marlborough.

Wolseley's
book contains also a contemporary plan of the
battle drawn
by Edward Dummer and reproduced from the
original in
the Pepysian Library at Cambridge. A
second plan,
drawn by Andrew Paschall, rector of Chedzoy,
is repro-
duced In Fea's King Monmouth. A third, also
attributed

¹II, 570 (v) ; Estelie Frances Ward, Christopher Monck,
Duke of Albe-
marle (1915), bk. v.

² Hist. MSS. Comm., Stopford Sackville MSS., i (1904), 2-
29.

³II, 600 (v). For Feversham's dandyism, see The Battle
of Sedgmoor,
a farce by the second Duke of Buckingham (in Works
[1775], vol. ii).